

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 26 have been amended. Support for those amendments can be found in the Specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 16 to 38 are now pending in the present application.

Applicants request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Specifically, claims 1[6] [*sic*] and 26 (as well as their dependent claims) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for stating “in a path of rays of a light beam to be modulated; and directions of the” The Office Action requests clarification regarding the “rotated relative to one another” feature of those claims. While Applicants believe that claims 16 and 26 (and their dependent claims) are allowable, Applicants have amended claims 16 and 26 above to improve their grammar and readability -- thus, further clarifying the claims to read: “directions of the fast optical axes and slow optical axes, respectively, of the at least two liquid crystal layers are rotated relative to one another so as to maintain that a polarization of the light beam upstream of the modulator is the same as a polarization of the light beam downstream of the modulator.” No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the Specification, including at page 4. The remaining claims appear rejected for being thought dependent on a rejected base claim. If another reason is meant, Applicants kindly request clarification for those claims (i.e., claims 17 and 31 to 38) which were not dependent on claims 16 or 26. Applicants respectfully submit that all claims 16 to 38, as amended above, are now in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of any rejection of claims 16 to 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Allowable Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that all claims 16 to 28 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 26 above to further clarify the features already claimed in those claims. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully submit that all claims 16 to 38 are allowable.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that all of claims 16 to 38 of the above-identified application are allowable for the foregoing reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the rejections of claims 16 to 38 have been obviated or overcome. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all claims 16 to 38, as presented, are now allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objections and/or rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

If it would further allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the contact information given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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